



Module 5: National Guard and Reserve



Module Objectives

After this module, you should be able to:

- Explain TRICARE coverage for National Guard/Reserve members on active duty for less than 30 consecutive days
- Define Line of Duty Determinations and how they are used
- Explain who determines TRICARE eligibility and how National Guard/Reserve members become eligible
- Describe the Pre-Activation Benefit
- List coverage options for retired National Guard/Reserve members



Coverage While On Active Duty For Less Than 30 Consecutive Days

- While on active duty orders for 30 days or less, National Guard/Reserve members are covered by their Service component for any injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty
 - Includes when they are traveling directly to or from the place where they perform their military duty, including weekend drill or unit training assembly
- During this period, National Guard/Reserve family members are not eligible for TRICARE benefits



Line of Duty Determination/ Notice of Eligibility

- Line of duty determination/Notice of Eligibility (LOD/NOE) is used to document, establish, manage, and authorize civilian health care for eligible National Guard/Reserve members who are injured or become ill while on active duty
- The Military Medical Support Office (MMSO) is responsible for managing civilian health care for National Guard/Reserve members who are **NOT** in a Military Treatment Facility (MTF) Prime Service Area in the U.S.
- Documentation for LOD/NOE-related conditions must be provided to either the MTF or MMSO to establish eligibility for care



TRICARE Coverage While On active Duty For More Than 30 Consecutive Days

- National Guard/Reserve members are TRICARE eligible
 - When activated on federal orders for more than 30 consecutive days
- Family members of National Guard/Reserve members are TRICARE eligible
 - When the sponsor is activated on federal orders for more than 30 consecutive days
- The Services determine TRICARE eligibility; the National Guard/Reserve Service Components are:
 - Army National Guard
 - Army Reserve
 - Navy Reserve
 - Marine Corps Reserve
 - Air National Guard
 - Air Force Reserve
 - Coast Guard Reserve



Pre-Activation Health Care Benefit

- National Guard/Reserve members who are issued delayed-effective-date active duty orders for more than 30 days **in support of a contingency operation** may qualify for "early eligibility for TRICARE" beginning on the later of:
 - (a) the date their orders were issued; or
 - (b) 180 days before they report to active duty
- National Guard/Reserve members who qualify for the pre-activation benefit are covered as "active duty service members" and receive active duty medical and dental benefits
- Additionally, when National Guard/Reserve members qualify for pre-activation benefits, family members who are registered in the DEERS are also covered under TRICARE up to 180 days before the sponsor's active duty service begins



TRICARE Enrollment for Activated Guard/Reserve Members

- Activated Guard/Reserve members enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR) just like regular component active duty service members
- If mobilized to an overseas location, National Guard/Reserve members should follow directions given by their command regarding enrollment in TRICARE Overseas Program Prime (TOP Prime)
 - National Guard/Reserve members on active duty in combatant theaters of operation with existing or imbedded organic medical treatment and support capabilities for health care are not required to enroll in TRICARE Prime
- To enroll in TRICARE Prime or TPR, Guard/Reserve members and their eligible family members must be registered in DEERS and complete a TRICARE Prime enrollment form



Coverage Options Available to National Guard/Reserve Members

When National Guard/Reserve members are **NOT** on active duty status, the following health care options may be available to them:

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS)

- Premium-based health plan available for purchase by qualified members of the National Guard/Reserve who are members of the Selected Reserve (drilling reservists)
- See the *TRS/TRR* module for additional information

Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)

- Provides 180 days of transitional health care coverage for certain members of the Uniformed Services who are being separated from active duty
- See the *Transitional Benefits* module for additional information

Continued Health Care Benefits Program

- Premium-based health care program that offers temporary transitional health coverage (up to 18 or 36 months) after military health care benefits end (including TAMP eligibility)
- See the *Transitional Benefits* module for additional information



TRICARE Dental Program

- National Guard/Reserve members who are not on active duty and their eligible family members may enroll in the premium-based TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) administered by United Concordia Companies, Inc.
- Eligibility for the TDP is determined by the Uniformed Services and recorded in DEERS
- When the National Guard/Reserve member is called to active duty on federal orders, they will get their dental care at the military dental facility
 - Guard/Reserve members on federal active duty orders to serve more than 30 consecutive days are considered active duty service members and are consequently disenrolled from the TDP (if enrolled)
- Guard/Reserve members who were enrolled in TDP before being ordered to active duty are automatically re-enrolled after separation from active duty



Coverage Options Available to National Guard/Reserve Retirees

- TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR) is a premium-based health plan that qualified National Guard/Reserve retirees may purchase
 - Family members and Survivors are also eligible
- TRR offers comprehensive health coverage from any TRICARE-authorized provider or hospital worldwide
- Once the National Guard/Reserve retiree reaches age 60 and receives retirement pay for their active service, they become eligible for:
 - TRICARE Standard/Extra
 - TRICARE Prime
 - TRICARE for Life (if entitled to Medicare)



Congratulations! You Have Completed Module 5: National Guard/Reserve

You should now be able to:

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- Explain who determines TRICARE eligibility and how National Guard/Reserve members become eligible
- Describe the Pre-Activation Benefit
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